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PATENTS  
109140-0002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re The Application of:  
David Page et al.

Serial No.: 09/519,197

Filed: March 6, 2000

For: Message-Based Referral Market-  
ing

Examiner: O'Connor

Art Unit: 2167

Cesari and McKenna, LLP  
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November 6, 2002

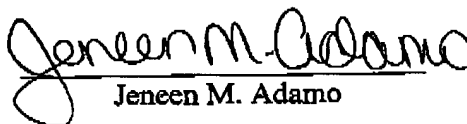
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I hereby certify that the following paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on November 6, 2002.

  
Jeneen M. Adamo

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

An office action dated 10/10/2002 requires an election of one of four groups of claims.

Group II, claims 8-14 are selected with traverse.

The Examiner characterizes Groups III and IV as related to Groups I and II as process and apparatus for its practice. The Examiner goes on to state that the apparatus can be used

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to practice a materially different process, namely that of ordering not involving display of any web pages. The apparatus claims include the GUI "for displaying a web page," and the process claims include displaying the web pages. The apparatus cannot perform without a bi-directional user interface, in this case the GUI, and displaying any text on the GUI qualifies as a "web page." The ordering process must use the GUI and the display of information. Page 8 of the original application gives a broad interpretation of "web pages," as "documents which are formatted, tree structured repositories of information, such as text, images sounds and animations." This encompasses any information interchanged.

The Examiner continues as follows, Group I, claims 1-7, and Group II, claims 8-14, as a combination and subcombination and citing that the subcombination have separate utility, namely "for use with ordering systems that do not offer any rewards. The offering of rewards in an element of claim 1 as amended, and it not found in claim 8 as amended. But these two claims share all the elements, and the additional element of adding a reward is not a separate utility it is a separate detail, much like a genus - species relationship.

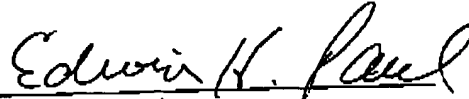
It is requested that the restriction be re-considered.

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Respectfully submitted,



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